

loop 28 of the adjacent sheet. This procedure is illustrated in FIG. 5-6 where one of slugs 26 has been inserted into the respective loop 28 whereas the remaining slug 26 has not yet been inserted.

[0024] The interconnecting strings 24 can be tied to the sheet 10 at each end by any method known in the art. Between each end of the sheet 10, the interconnecting strings 24 are preferably laced through the sticks 12 in the fashion previously described for the binding strings 14. Further, it is not necessary to add additional strings 24 but, instead, one or more pairs of binding strings 14 can serve as an interconnecting pair 24. The sheets 10 illustrated in FIGS. 4-5-5-6 are preferably provided with slats 20, 22, however, the sheets 10 can also be configured without the slats.

[0025] Still another sheet interconnecting method is illustrated in FIGS. 6-77-8. Each sheet 10 may be provided with a slotted linking piece 30 at each end. The linking piece 30 is preferably a material that is similar in color and texture to the sticks 12, and the linking pieces are preferably of approximately the same thickness as the sticks 12. Each linking piece 10 is configured with a slot 32 and an extended tab 34 that can be received by the slot 32 of an adjacent sheet 10.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to substantive examination of the application to correct an inadvertent error with respect to the numbering of the figures. These changes are submitted to place the application in better form for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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